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AMENDMENT

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2. (original) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 1, wherein said first leg and said second leg are demarcated from one another by a pair of slits beginning at said fork and extending substantially through said outer surface and said thread of said generally cylindrical portion, said slits being on generally opposite sides of said outer surface.

3. (original) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 2, wherein said slits have a zig-zag shape defining crocodile-like interfacing teeth on said legs, and wherein a forwardmost portion of each of said slits follows a perimeter of said generally rearward facing shoulder substantially to a forwardmost and outermost end of said generally rearward facing shoulder.

4. (original) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 3, wherein said elongated fastener includes threads, wherein said crocodile-like teeth engage said elongated fastener threads when said self-drilling anchor is in said anchoring mode.

5. (original) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 2, wherein a rearmost end of each one of said pair of slits is rounded.

6. (original) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 2, wherein a rearmost end of each one of said pair of slits includes an eyelet.

7. (original) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 1, wherein said drilling tip comprises a generally flat drilling blade having cutting surfaces and a pointed tip.

8. (original) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 1, wherein said elongated fastener is inserted into said axial bore until a tip of said elongated fastener engages and slides along said generally rearward facing shoulder and continues in a generally forward direction until said legs are forced into said anchoring mode.

9. (original) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 1, wherein a portion of said axial bore proximate said generally rearward facing shoulder is tapered toward said generally rearward facing shoulder.

10. (original) A self-drilling anchor for use in a friable material, comprising:

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a body having an axis, a flanged rear end, a drilling front end and a generally cylindrical portion therebetween having an outer surface with a thread disposed thereon;

said drilling front end comprising a generally flat blade including a first portion having a first angled cutting edge and a first side cutting edge, and a second portion having a second angled cutting edge and a second side cutting edge, wherein said first and second angled cutting edges form a point, said portions being formed on a common line and offset relative to each other along a plane passing through a diameter of said cylindrical portion;

wherein said body forks along a pair of zig-zag shaped slits beginning at a predetermined distance from said flanged rear end, into a first leg and a second leg, wherein said zig-zag shaped slits define crocodile-like interfacing teeth on said legs;

said first leg extending forwardly into said generally flat blade and having a generally rearward facing shoulder angled obtusely outwardly with respect to said axis, wherein a forwardmost portion of each of said slits follows a perimeter of said generally rearward facing shoulder substantially to a forwardmost and outermost end of said generally rearward facing shoulder;

a coaxial central bore in said body for receiving an elongate fastener, said central bore extending substantially through said flanged rear end and said generally cylindrical portion and leading to said generally rearward facing shoulder;

wherein said anchor has a drilling mode wherein said second leg nests behind said generally rearward facing shoulder of said first leg, and an anchoring mode wherein said legs are pivoted apart from one another.

11. (new) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 1, wherein said generally rearward facing shoulder is angled obtusely outwardly with respect to said axis at an angle of between about 100° and about 160°.

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12. (new) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 1, wherein said generally rearward facing shoulder is angled obtusely outwardly with respect to said axis at an angle of between about 120° and about 150°.

13. (new) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 1, wherein said generally rearward facing shoulder is angled obtusely outwardly with respect to said axis at an angle of about 130°.

14. (new) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 2, wherein a first end of said slits is spaced a distance from said flanged rear end that is between about 20% and about 50% of a total length of said anchor.

15. (new) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 2, wherein a first end of said slits is spaced a distance from said flanged rear end that is between about 25% and about 40% of a total length of said anchor.

16. (new) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 2, wherein a first end of said slits is spaced a distance from said flanged rear end that is about 30% of a total length of said anchor.

17. (new) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 2, wherein a first end of said slits is spaced a distance from said flanged rear end that is between about 75% and about 125% of a thickness of said friable material.

18. (new) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 2, wherein a first end of said slits is spaced a distance from said flanged rear end that is between about 90% and about 105% of a thickness of said friable material.

19. (new) A self-drilling anchor according to claim 2, wherein a first end of said slits is spaced a distance from said flanged rear end that is about 100% of a thickness of said friable material.

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20. (new) A method for anchoring an elongate fastener in a friable material, using a self-drilling anchor, said method comprising:
providing a self-drilling anchor comprising a body having an axis, a flanged rear end, a drilling front end and a generally cylindrical portion therebetween having an outer surface with a thread disposed thereon;
wherein said body forks, beginning at a predetermined distance from said flanged rear end, into a first leg and a second leg, said first leg extending forwardly into a drilling tip and having a generally rearward facing shoulder angled obtusely outwardly with respect to said axis;
wherein said body has an axial bore for receiving said elongate fastener, said axial bore extending substantially through said flanged end and said generally cylindrical portion and leading to said generally rearward facing shoulder;
driving said self-drilling anchor into said friable material by placing said drilling tip at a desired location on a surface of said friable material, engaging a driver of a rotary driving tool with said flanged rear end, and rotating said self-drilling anchor until said self-drilling anchor drills through said friable material and said thread engages said friable material, and continuing to drive said self-drilling anchor forward until said flange is seated into said friable material flush or countersunk with respect to said surface of said friable material; and
inserting said elongated fastener into said axial bore until a tip of said elongated fastener engages and slides along said generally rearward facing shoulder and continues in a generally forward direction until said legs are forced into an anchoring mode wherein said legs are pivoted apart from one another.

21. (new) A method according to claim 20, wherein said inserting comprises driving said fastener through said bore so that said fastener encounters said rearward facing shoulder, and a tip of said fastener slides along said shoulder, causing said shoulder to deflect laterally outwardly away from said fastener so that said first leg pivots away from said fastener, and a portion of said fastener also deflects said second leg outwardly,